We share the Trust’s conviction that great schools are built on a broad enrichment programme and high quality pastoral care, as well as an inspiring curriculum, expertly taught.
Welcome to Stantonbury International School

I am delighted to welcome you to Stantonbury International School. We hope this guide gives you an understanding of our school and its core values as well as providing useful information.

We are a proud family member of the Griffin Schools Trust, and as such our vision is underpinned by our three pillars which are Proud Traditions, Wide Horizons and High Achievement. We seek to provide the conditions in which children learn and thrive through curiosity and fun whilst developing a sense of responsibility, leadership and service.

Our focus is on providing an enriching and nurturing experience for all of our learners so that they go on to become fulfilled and responsible global thinkers and future leaders.

We share the Trust’s conviction that great schools are built on a broad enrichment programme and high-quality pastoral care, as well as an inspiring curriculum, expertly taught.

Stantonbury International School is an exciting place for learning and creativity and where parents, staff, and students can work in partnership to achieve success.

We warmly invite you to become part of this wonderful and dynamic community.

Michelle Newman
Head of School
Aims and Vision

Proud Traditions
Stantonbury International School is an outward thinking, inclusive and creative school with a proud history of outstanding provision and achievement in the creative arts and sport.

Facilities include our own theatre, sports centre, swimming pool and athletics stadium and our new 3g artificial grass pitch. We also host the Griffin Schools Trust’s annual Science Symposium, take part in the Griffin Arts Festival GAF week and hold a celebratory Founders Day every year.

Wide Horizons
Last year marked the launch of our exciting journey towards becoming an International Baccalaureate School (IB). We have established a range of international links and introduced the Middle Years Programme (MYP) in years 7 - 8. This aims to develop active learners and internationally minded young people who can empathise with others and pursue lives of purpose and meaning.

The programme empowers students to inquire into a wide range of issues and ideas of significance locally, nationally and globally. The result is young people who are creative, critical and reflective thinkers.

High Achievement
We expect most of our students to stay on into our Sixth Form, which is separately housed with its own facilities and private study area. Many students have accepted offers from Russell Group institutions, the top twenty Universities in the country.

In addition, many of our students also continue in the Arts including specialist music, drama and sports colleges as well as those who join excellent apprentice opportunities in various sectors including IT, business and creative media.

We’re delighted to have an array of Alumni students return to contribute towards our Proud Traditions.
After some outstanding individual successes this summer, university places were secured at Imperial College London, Warwick, Birmingham, University College London and many more.
Values and Partnerships

Our globally minded students take pride in their school, their learning and their relationships with peers and staff. We believe that our students are our school’s best asset.

Our students are diverse, confident, caring individuals who understand that values are what drive us to become well-rounded individuals with a sense of community and responsibility.

All rewards are informed by our shared values. Our Moral Compass is comprised of eight key values:

- Responsibility
- Integrity
- Kindness
- Respect
- Determination
- Teamwork
- Independence
- Creativity

Our pupils, parents and staff are committed to ensuring everyone enjoys positive partnerships for a thriving school based on the values we share through our Moral Compass and our comprehensive commitment to Proud Traditions, Wide Horizons and High Achievement.
Students cannot help but be impressed by our specialist facilities here at Stantonbury International School and the opportunities offered by our professional theatre, sports centre, athletics stadium and 3g artificial grass pitch.
Facilities

Theatre
Our newly refurbished theatre was the first in Milton Keynes and offers huge enrichment opportunities to our students who are able to showcase their impressive range of talents in our large-scale musicals, music concerts, drama productions, dance shows and professional pantomime.

Stantonbury theatre is a key public arts venue in Milton Keynes, programming world class theatre and dance productions, the majority of which students can access free of charge.

Increasingly students have the opportunity to take part in professional productions in their own theatre. Other opportunities for students include technical theatre training and, for Sixth Formers, the chance to be employed as theatre ushers.

International Sports Centre
Stantonbury International School offers magnificent indoor and outdoor sporting opportunities. Outside areas include a 3g artificial grass pitch, outdoor fields and tennis courts. We also have an athletics stadium with full track and field facilities which are also home to Marshall Milton Keynes Athletics Club – the former home club of Olympian, Greg Rutherford.

Indoor areas include a six-court badminton sports hall which can be used for any team games and a 25 metre swimming and learner pool.

Please see our special theatre and sports centre pages on our website for more details.

Library
The Library is located at the heart of the school. It offers a supportive learning environment where students come to study, learn and read for pleasure.

Students use the library before school, at break and at lunchtimes. It is also open after school for homework, research or for the pure enjoyment of reading.

Specialist faculty teaching areas
These include English, Maths, Science, Art and Design, Technology, Modern Languages and Humanities and Year Group bases. Funding has been secured to build our brand-new Science, Art and Design block with up to date specialist equipment and facilities further enhancing our provision.

Music Centre
Our music centre features a recording and editing suite.

Sixth Form Centre
Our dedicated Sixth Form area enjoys its own facilities, conference room and study areas.

Wellbeing Centre
Our centre offers support and counselling services for all our students.

The Learning Curve
Stantonbury International School provides support and wellbeing services to our SEND students.
Curriculum

Our curriculum is not simply broad and balanced but is also forward-thinking and wide-ranging. From Mandarin to Engineering, we have opportunities to suit every need and aspiration.

We also offer a tremendous range of extra-curricular opportunities for our students so that their total SIS experience enables them to discover and pursue their interests to the highest levels.

We guide students aiming at top universities in their choice of appropriate subjects in the Sixth Form and ensure those wishing to pursue specific vocations and careers are guided to make choices which will lead to the very best higher education, apprenticeship and employment opportunities. Destinations beyond SIS are very much part of our concern.

Many stay on to our Sixth Form which also offers a mix of academic and vocational courses. Through our wide horizons curriculum, we seek to instill important values, attitudes and knowledge that will help all of our students to thrive in a rapidly changing society.

Full curriculum maps detailing the courses for our 11-16 year group and Sixth Form are available on our website.

I am incredibly proud of the hard work, commitment and resilience shown by staff and students to contribute towards these excellent results.

Aaron Davies
Head of Sixth Form
A core part of our mission is to prepare all students for adult life.
Stantonbury International School has been successful in achieving the British Council International School Foundation Award. Our exciting journey to becoming an International Baccalaureate School (IB) has progressed with Year 7 and 8 students following the exciting Middle Years Programme.

We have already established a range of international links with schools as far away as Kathmandu and further encouraged a global outlook for our students through our Modern Foreign Language curriculum, including the introduction of Mandarin.

**Middle Years Programme**

**Year 7 and Year 8 Curriculum**

This aims to develop active learners and internationally minded young people who can empathise with others and pursue lives of purpose and meaning.

Our students will benefit from an inspiring, creative and broad curriculum which will enable them to acquire the 10 IB learning attributes articulated in the IB learner profile.

**IB learners strive to be**

1. Inquirers - developing skills for inquiry and research.
2. Knowledgeable - exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines.
3. Thinkers - using critical and creative thinking to analyse and take responsible actions.
4. Communicators - expressing themselves confidently and creatively in more than one language.
5. Principled - acting with dignity and honesty.
6. Open-minded - appreciating their own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others.
7. Caring - showing empathy, compassion and respect.
8. Risk-takers - working independently and cooperatively to explore uncertainty with forethought and determination.
9. Balanced - harmonising different aspects of their lives - intellectual, physical, and emotional - to achieve well-being for themselves and others.
10. Reflective - working to understand their strengths and weaknesses and reflect upon them to support their learning and personal development.
Our School Community

As an International School, we value the diversity of our school community. Our students speak many languages and bring a richness of cultural perspectives and experiences to our school.

Students have a voice in the way the school operates and develops and are encouraged to get involved with external projects engendering citizenship and an understanding of democracy. They also raise funds annually for good causes nationally and internationally.

Cooperation and competition are built into our school culture in a number of ways, including the house system which provides a structure for students of different ages to work together, culminating in fierce competition for the house cup.

We are fortunate that our extensive arts and sports facilities bring a range of opportunities to students and their families for participation or enjoyment as spectators/audience.

Every student is known

Excellent links with our primary schools mean that Year 6 students join us for a programme of active enrichment and induction days.

We work hard to ensure a smooth transition from primary school and each student has a tutor who, wherever possible, remains the key point of contact from Year 7 through to Year 11. The tutor has a crucial role in knowing the students as individuals and building a working relationship between home and school that will enable them to thrive.

Our students also support each other through our Student Leadership, peacemaker, mentoring and student ambassadors’ programmes. Student leadership of this kind is an important part of our school.

Additional support for students and families is provided through our Inclusion team. Our provision for students with Special Educational Needs (SEN) is among the most respected in Milton Keynes. We also have dedicated staff to support those in the early stages of learning the English language, enabling them to accelerate their full integration into school life while having the opportunity to gain a qualification in their first language.
Admissions

How to Apply

The Local Authority coordinates admissions for all schools in Milton Keynes, and its procedures are contained in the ‘Admissions to Secondary Schools in Milton Keynes: Information for Parents’ booklet. Information is sent directly to all schools in September before the year of transfer. It is important that parents read this information carefully and meet the deadlines for submission of forms. These should be returned to the Local Authority, rather than the school.

If your child is looking to join any year other than Year 7 you should apply for a place using the Milton Keynes in-year secondary application form which is available from School Admissions at Milton Keynes Council. Full details of our admission policy are available on the school website, including criteria for allocation of places.

Partnership

Students thrive best when there is a strong partnership between home and school. The form tutor is always the first point of contact and is best reached by e-mail. Students have a personal planner, used for communication between home and school and for recording homework. The Student Services team can be contacted for support and advice at any time.

On admission we ask parents and carers to sign a Home School Agreement, setting out how we will work with you and how we like students and parents to work with us. We send reports home four or five times a year (dependent on year group) with online access at any time through the My Child at School portal. Tutor and subject teacher parents’ evenings and curriculum and options evenings run alongside, customised for the year group.

We have an online Parent Pay facility, enabling you to credit your child’s account for use in our catering outlets, to give permissions and pay for school visits.

The planned admission number for 2020 into Year 7 is 360.
Stantonbury International School is an equal opportunities employer committed to safeguarding our students and working in partnership with our local community.

We treat people equally regardless of gender, race, disability or sexual orientation and are committed to meet the requirements of the Equalities Act and other relevant legislation.

This prospectus describes our school as it is and reserve the right to make changes to policy and provision as the school develops. For further information about planned changes and full details of policies please visit www.stantonbury-gst.org